

ABSTRACT

A method for ~~effective~~ effectively preventing polymerization of acrylic acid during an azeotropic dehydration distillation in an acrylic acid manufacturing process and thus enabling ~~a~~ stable operation of the azeotropic dehydration column over an extended period of time. ~~A method for preventing the polymerization of acrylic acid in an acrylic acid production process, wherein~~ The acrylic acid is separated in an azeotropic dehydration column from an acrylic acid aqueous solution fed therein, and the method ~~comprising~~ includes withdrawing from the bottom of the azeotropic dehydration column a bottom effluent containing 50% or more of glyoxal (including the hydrates thereof) contained in the acrylic acid aqueous solution fed into the azeotropic dehydration column.